



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

SINCE 1991

August 2016

## HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

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CLASS 1

### CERT Fall Classes

By Virginia Petrelis

Tell your friends and family now is the time to sign up for Fall CERT Training classes starting September 20, 2016. See the brochure in this newsletter.

Interested participants can sign up online at:  
[http://www.surfcity-hb.org/government/departments/fire/cert/class\\_schedule.cfm](http://www.surfcity-hb.org/government/departments/fire/cert/class_schedule.cfm).

### Senior Saturday Community Festival

By Virginia Petrelis

Senior Saturday will be on September 10, 2016, at Pier Plaza. Logistics volunteers are needed for setting up tables, chairs, etc. in the early morning or taking them down in the afternoon. You can sign up to work either shift or both.

Volunteers are also needed to help in the CERT booth handing out fliers and information on the upcoming CERT classes. CERT members with CPR training will be asked to demonstrate CPR on the first aid dummies. If we have enough volunteers, we can divide the day into a few shifts so no one will have to spend the whole day there.

If you are available to help, please call Richard Batistelli at 818-469-4707. Information on transportation is not available at this time, but it usually is provided by the Senior Center. If you sign up, you will be notified of the arrangements.

Please come and participate in this fun day!

### Breitling Huntington Beach Airshow

By Virginia Petrelis

The airshow will take place over the sands of Huntington Beach October 20 – October 23, 2016. Featured are precision maneuvers by the United States Air Force Flight Demonstration Squadron (the Thunderbirds), and the Breitling Jet Team. Crowds of 100,000 to 250,000 are expected to attend this exciting event.

CERT volunteers are needed for one or more first aid stations. Airshow volunteers must have first aid training. First aid classes will be offered September 17 and, if needed, September 24, 2016. In addition, for this event, volunteers must attend terrorism training on October 8, 2016. Keep an eye on the CERT portal for the opportunity to sign up.

### Congratulations, Carol Burtis!

By Virginia Petrelis

We are pleased to announce that Carol Burtis has accepted the position of CERT Coordinator. She will be working part time with Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator, and concentrating on CERT activities. Carol has been a CERT volunteer for more than 23 years and was one of the founding members who helped write the CERT constitution and by-laws. She is co-leader of her own neighborhood CERT team and is a past president of Huntington Beach CERT.

Carol's specialty in CERT up to now has been personal preparedness for individuals, families, neighborhoods, schools, businesses and churches. She hopes to continue speaking with the emphasis on public education. In her new role, she will also be working to ensure the ongoing success of Huntington Beach CERT and aligning our volunteer's skills, training and deployments with the overall City plan. She plans to engage everyone at a more frequent level by having monthly speakers and a class led by CERT volunteers in the fall. She is also hoping to expand volunteer opportunities to include working the booths and other events.

Carol knows CERT! We're so happy she has agreed to take on this big responsibility and we encourage your support and involvement. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach Carol in the EOC at 714-536-5979 usually on Tuesday and Thursday starting at 9:00 am until the early to mid afternoon and on Wednesday afternoons.

## July 14, 2016 CERT Meeting Recap

By Phil Burtis

At our general meeting on Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, our speaker was Jared Dever, Director of Communications from the OC Mosquito and Vector Control District. Now you might be wondering what a 'vector' is and why we should try to 'control' it.

Well, Vectors, as defined by the California Department of Public Health, are *"any insect or other arthropod, rodent or other animal of public health significance capable of harboring or transmitting the causative agents of human disease, or capable of causing human discomfort and injury."* To read more about the agency, go online to <http://www.ocvcd.org/>.

Jared started off his talk saying he had nothing good to say, and it might go from bad to worse before he got done! As it turns out, it did, and we learned a lot about mosquitoes - Spanish for 'little fly' - which are amazingly efficient critters that kill way more humans than anything else (some of which don't show on the chart below)!



Jared talked about the different types of mosquitoes and which ones tend to carry what disease, and how they're passed. As of the day of his presentation, we have not yet had Zika infections here in the US (only people that got it elsewhere and brought it in), but as of this writing there are now four confirmed Zika cases in Florida passed by local mosquitoes. He also discussed West Nile virus and even fire ants.

There was a wealth of information provided. Jared was an excellent speaker and presenter, considering the subject matter is a bit scary. He showed several charts depicting the spread of the West Nile virus here in Orange County and stated they could even trace the origins back to a given shipment of a given product from elsewhere. Just showing how they spread was absolutely fascinating.

Possibly some of the scariest points centered on the fact we cannot really even eradicate most of these tiny animals. Some of them can lay eggs where there used to be water and those eggs - almost impossible to see - can sit dormant for literally years waiting for rain, or a sprinkler, or maybe even you grabbing an unused flower pot and planting something new. Once you water it, poof, five year old mosquito eggs hatch!

If you're out in an area where mosquitoes are known to frequent, use bug repellent, wear long sleeve shirts as much as possible, and try not to get bit! If you see an infestation, call the OCVCD and report the situation. They will dispatch teams to investigate and, if possible, remediate the situation. Thanks to everyone who came to the July meeting and we hope to see you again in September.

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade 2016

By Virginia Petrelis

Several of our CERT volunteers enjoyed the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade by walking the 2 ½ mile route escorting celebrities, or communicating by ham radio with RACES. They were on the lookout for any problems or suspicious activities. CERT also had a station at the end of the parade to provide first aid if necessary and give out cold water to thirsty participants. The parade was televised on Channel 7 and some of us who were not there in person tried to identify our CERT members as they passed by. See pictures in this newsletter.

## The US Open of Surfing 2016

By Susan McClaran

The 2016 U.S. Open of Surfing once again proved to be a successful event and fun time for our CERT volunteers. We enjoyed each other's company and the beauty of our beach, all the while helping out those in need, and meeting wonderful residents and visitors.

The weather was very warm and humid, which equated to quite a number of people having heat-related problems. We handled many foot injuries, a sight we are used to, and quite a number of abrasions to hands, shins and knees from wiping out, either on the pavement while biking or skating, and some even from wiping out in the waves. Hitting the sand hard can really tear up your skin. We had the typical blisters but, happy to say, only a few folks with those nasty splinters.

We did have some other excitement on a number of occasions this year. We had someone with a diabetic emergency--fortunately rest and some Gatorade was all that was needed. Another lady had a cardiac emergency that sent Carol Burtis and me into high gear. We were faced with making a decision of calling the EMTs even though the person did not want them called. She had even left the First Aid Tent with her kids after resting for a bit, only to return to rest a little while later. She insisted she would be fine, but we could tell she was not doing well and decided to call the EMTs. Lucky for her we did, she was in uncontrolled Atrial Fibrillation and her blood pressure was low. Off to Hoag she went....we pray that she is much better now.

Let's see....what else? Oh yes, how about a couple of people, one of which had a couple of stab wounds and let's not forget the guy that got into a bloody fight

## The US Open of Surfing 2016 (continued)

with the police who brought him into our tent on the last day. What a mess! We were cleaning police and the police were cleaning the bad guy. Now that's a little different from what we're used to! All in all, we helped 108 people and that's not including the countless number of bandages, alcohol wipes and ice packs we handed out to those people just treating their own issues.

A very special "shout out" to Battalion Chief, Jeff Lopez, and his team, whose help and support was very much appreciated. Chief Lopez made sure everyone's needs were met throughout each day. It was always a pleasure when he would stop by to chat with us. We also had visits from many of our FD Chiefs thanking us. Many visitors and athletes came by to say the same and offer us a "thumbs up" to show their appreciation we were there.

Lastly, "Thank You" to all the CERT volunteers who participated this year: John Bishop, Nancy Boyer, Melisse Bridges, Stephanie Deagle, Mike Depin, Janice Goodwin, Chad Hicks-Beach, Mimi Irvin, Gabriela Menendez, Debbie Quintero, Karen Robinson, Ken Robinson, Barbara Scott, Linda Vircks, Linda Volmar, Maria Young, Robert Zamalin and our very own City of HB employee and beloved CERT advocate, Carol Burtis. Thank you all so very much and know this event would not have been successful without the support and dedication of each and every one of you. It was a pleasure to hang out at the beach with all of you.

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## ARRL Field Day, June 25 & 26, 2016

*By Raji Shunmugavel*

As defined in Wikipedia - "Field Day is an annual amateur radio exercise, widely sponsored by IARU regions and member organizations, encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. In the United States, it is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 30,000 operators participating each year.

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday.

Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, radio amateurs throughout North America have practiced the rapid deployment of radio equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and of each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component, and many clubs also engage in

concurrent leisure activities (camping out, cookouts, etc.) Operations typically last a continuous twenty-four hours, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. Additional contest points are awarded for experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts via satellite, and involving youth in the activity."

Huntington Beach RACES, for the past several years held their Field Day on the beach bluff at Pacific Coast Highway and Goldenwest Street. In the past, I would attend the event just for one or two hours talking with other hams and participating in lunch or dinner. This year, I was motivated by a message sent on the RACES net by Dr. Steven R. Graboff, Chief Radio Officer of HB RACES inviting and encouraging volunteers to participate and camp overnight. My tenting skills were a little rusty but I brought my twenty year old tent and stayed overnight.

The day was rewarding and we enjoyed tacos from Sancho's for dinner. I went to sleep around 9:30 pm, and slept comfortably in my big tent until I was awakened by the sound of the crashing waves and sirens. I felt very blessed to have this opportunity to camp on the beach.

This event has helped me to refresh my tenting skills, check the condition of my tent, make sure there are no missing pieces, and remind me to put a mallet in the bag. Even though we were not required to cook or provide our own sanitation facilities, this was an invaluable experience and gave me an insight of what it takes to take care of myself as well as helping others. I thank Huntington Beach RACES and CERT for providing this wonderful opportunity.

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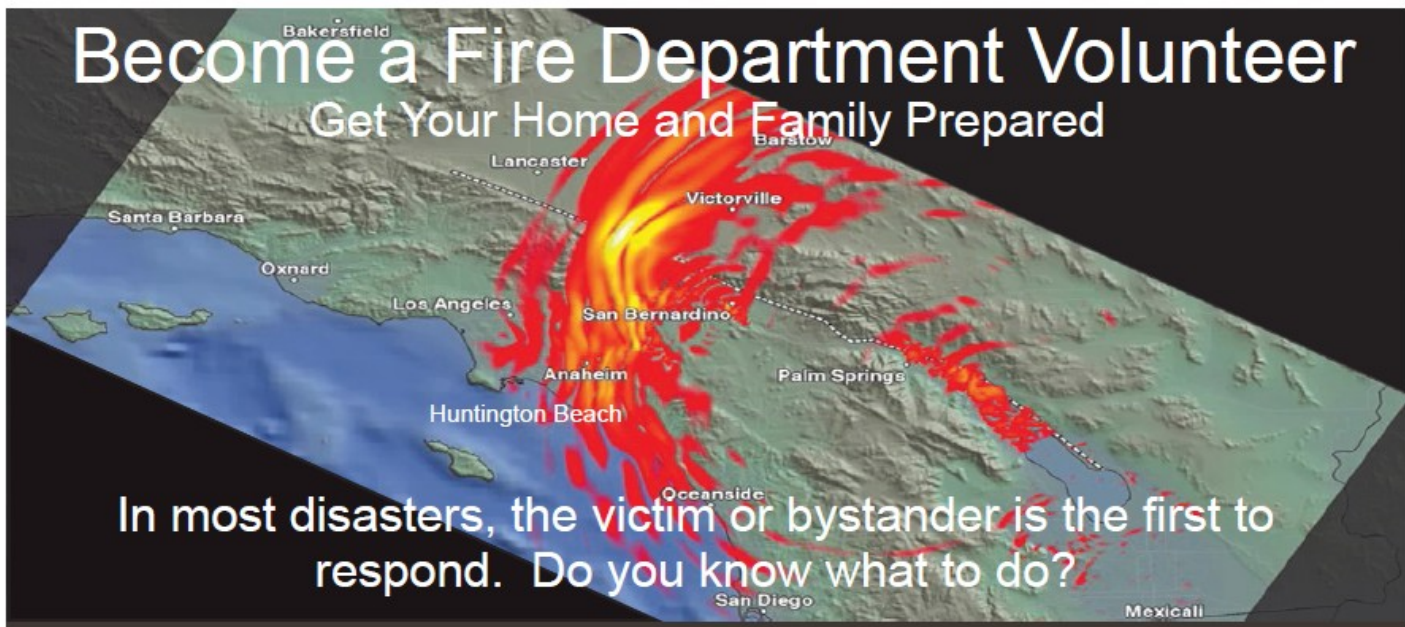
## An Observation from a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Viewer

Nothing beats our Huntington Beach Fourth of July parade starting with a fly over of fighter jets--flags were flying, people cheering, all branches of our military represented as they walk down the street, floats, marching bands, variety of youth groups with smiles and all on a beautiful, clear day. At the end of the parade is a pop up tent where people in green vests walk around and nicely ask people who have tried to stand in the street to please move so the floats can make that final turn, and walkers can end the parade and disperse. These green vested people patiently wait to answer questions, assist with band aids and even a couple of these green vests were seen walking alongside the parade to assist those in cars, or help give donated water bottles to the thirsty walkers, and ever watchful for the people ending their long march in case their first aid services were needed. The complements from the parents, children and parade walkers, the smiles as they left the parade made the day special because they had a chance to appreciate those who serve our country by assisting in a parade to honor them. Who were these green vested heroes? Who else, the HBCERT volunteers.



# Become a Fire Department Volunteer

## Get Your Home and Family Prepared



In most disasters, the victim or bystander is the first to respond. Do you know what to do?

Potential impact of a 7.8 earthquake on the San Andreas Fault

### What is CERT?

CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) is a FEMA endorsed training program that prepares you to help yourself, your family, your neighbors and your community in the event of a disaster. During an incident, emergency response personnel could become overwhelmed and resources will be limited. By becoming CERT trained, you will gain the skills to help emergency responders save lives and property. Once you have completed the training, you have the opportunity to become a Fire Department CERT volunteer.



### What Will I Learn?

By taking CERT you will learn:

- How to prepare your home and family for a disaster
- How to perform basic first aid and CPR
- How to safely search a building for trapped victims and rescue them
- How to put out small fires using a fire extinguisher
- How to survive outdoors if you cannot return to your home because it is unsafe
- How to use all these skills to create a Neighborhood CERT Team



## CLASS 1

Emergency Management  
&

Homeland Security Office  
2000 Main Street

Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
714-374-1565



### What do CERT Volunteers do?

CERT volunteers are trained to prepare for and respond to a disaster until first responders arrive. You will be taught to manage a disaster in your home, work, neighborhood or school. After taking care of your home, family and neighborhood, you will help the city with duties such as, providing damage assessment information, sandbagging, sheltering, helping in the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), and providing support to the Fire Department and Police Department.





# Huntington Beach Fire Department

## A Class1 Fire Department

The CERT Basic Series consists of nine units that build on each other and end with a disaster drill where you can practice what you have learned. You must attend the entire training series to graduate. Unit topics include:

### Disaster Preparedness & Terrorism

Learn what threats Huntington Beach residents face, how the City will respond in a disaster, and how you can get your home, family, neighborhood, school and/or business prepared to respond to emergencies.

### Disaster First Aid (Medical Ops I & II)

Learn creative first aid solutions to common injuries resulting from an earthquake, or other disasters, and the ABC's of disaster first aid. Additional topics include splints, slings, treating burns, impaled objects and shock. Learn how to triage disaster victims.

### Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression

Learn how to do a safety size-up, lift 1000+ pounds using simple leverage techniques, properly search for trapped victims, shore up an unsafe structure, and safely move the injured. Learn to use a fire extinguisher and put out a live fire, fire safety and prevention, how to shut off utilities and secure items that may cause injuries in an earthquake. Finish the class with a disaster drill that will test your newly acquired skills.

**FREE** Evening Classes will be available for Fall 2016, dates and times are as follows:

#### Class Times

Tuesday, September 20 & 27

Thursday, September 22 & 29

6:00pm to 9:00pm

and

Saturday October 1; 8:00am - 4:00pm

**You Must Attend All Classes**



[www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert)







## CERT FOURTH OF JULY PARADE VOLUNTEERS





## CERT FIRST AID BOOTH VOLUNTEERING AT US OPEN



### **U.S. OPEN Haiku** *By Barbara Ann Scott*

The U.S. Open  
White Sand, Blue Sky, Ocean Waves  
A Picture Postcard.

Fearless Bike Riders  
Broken fingers and skinned knees  
Skateboarders were worse.

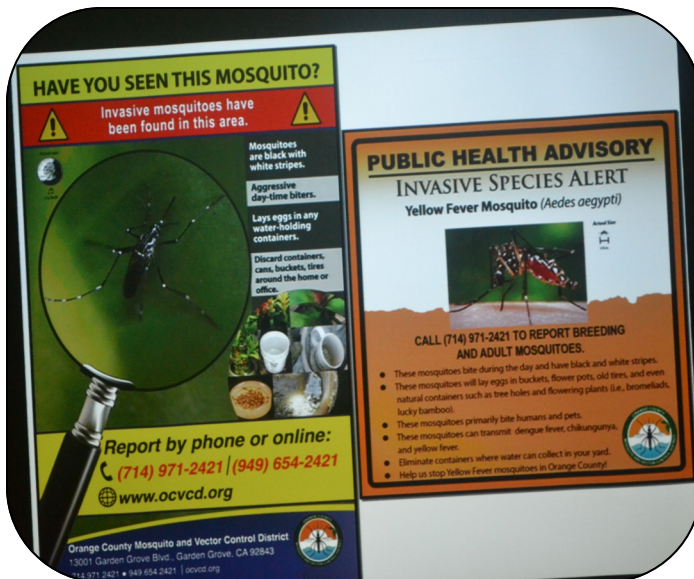
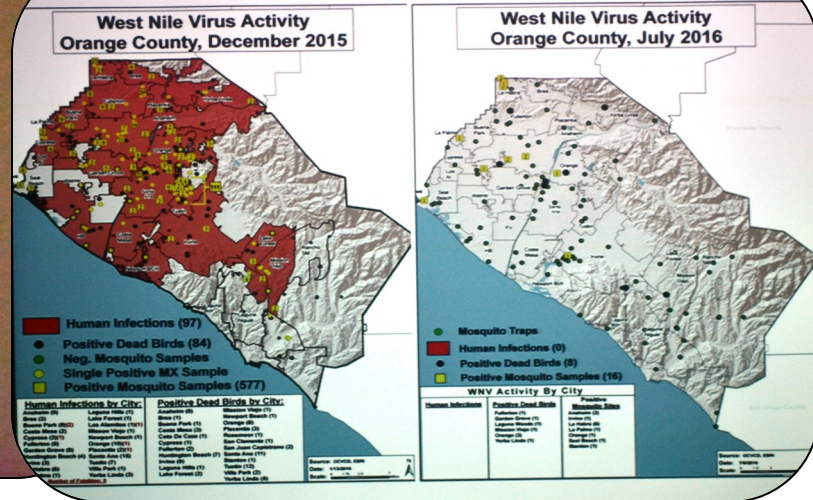
Sun on sparkling waves  
Do surfers feel close to God?  
They walk on water.

A Fireman said  
After he had his lunch break  
Return to Bay Watch!

Huntington Beach is  
A very beautiful place  
We are so blessed here.



## CERT JULY GENERAL MEETING ZIKA & WEST NILE PRESENTATION



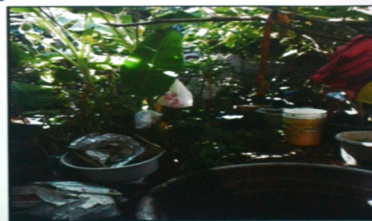
## Zika Virus Infection During Pregnancy Can Cause Microcephaly

- Zika virus has been isolated in fetal brain tissue in the setting of microcephalic disease
- Recent study indicated that fetuses will be affected in 1% of women infected during pregnancy



## District Invasive *Aedes* Control Strategy

- Defined infested areas & establish perimeters
- Educate the public on eliminating mosquito breeding sites.
- Inspect and treat immature mosquitoes (eggs, larvae, pupae)
- Control adult mosquitoes (adulticide) around infested homes & neighborhoods



13001 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843

714.971.2421 or 949. 654.2421

 [facebook.com/ocvectorcontrol](https://facebook.com/ocvectorcontrol)

 [twitter.com/ocvector](https://twitter.com/ocvector)

[www.ocvcd.org](http://www.ocvcd.org)



## CERT BOOTH AT SUNSET BEACH DISASTER PLANNING EXPO



Raji at ARRL  
Field Day, 2016





# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT

## Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

### Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM September 8, 2016 in B8
- Senior Saturday, September 10, 2016 (CERT Staffing)
- CERT General Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM October 13, 2016 in B8
- Breiling HB Airshow, October 20, 2016 (CERT staffing)

### CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee.

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Saturday, August 13,     | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm |
| • Wednesday, August 24,    | 6:00pm—9:00pm      |
| • Saturday, September 10,  | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm |
| • Wednesday, September 21, | 6:00pm—9:00pm      |
| • Saturday, October 8,     | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm |
| • Wednesday, October 19,   | 6:00pm—9:00pm      |
| • Saturday, November 12,   | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm |
| • Saturday, December 10,   | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm |

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

### HB CERT Newsletter Staff

Virginia Petrelis (Editor), Peter Petrelis (Publisher), Anna Pinter, Cynthia Goebel, Art Weiland, Carol Nehls, Bob Zamalin, Rajarajeswari (Raji) Shunmugavel, Brenda Welch, Barbara Scott, Hannah Kilbourne



### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: [www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert) CERT Contact: [CERT@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:CERT@surfcity-hb.org)  
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)